# City of Mesa Bicycle and Pedestrian Program

# 2014 Annual Report

mesa·az

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# ACCOMPLISHMENTS

****Valley Metro Clean Air Campaign Awards****
**Outstanding Bike Program - Runner Up**

## Bicycle Facilities Grants and Bonds Awarded

*Design Assistance Grant—Dobson Road Complete Street
*Closeout Addition Project Funding – Rio Salado Phase 3 $450,000
*Closeout Additional Project Funding – Porter Park Path $1.4 Million
*City of Mesa Bond Election – 10th Street Road Diet and Street Calming Project $1 Million

## Events

*CycloMesa
  *El Tour Criterium
  *El Tour de Mesa
* Bike 2 Work Day
*International Walk to School Day
*Mesa Adventure Challenge

## Programs

*Bicycle Education
*Multi-Modal Transportation Plan
*Car Seat Education

## Feasibility Studies

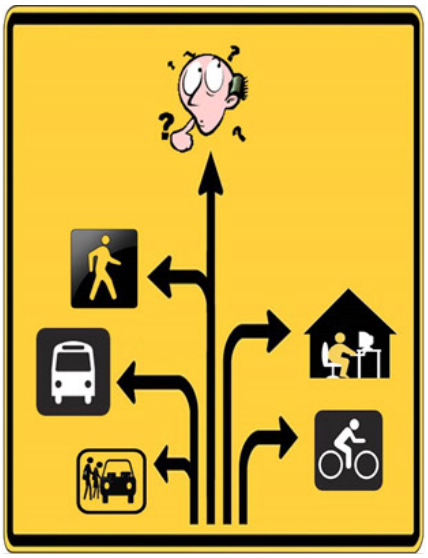
*West Mesa Connector
*Southeast Mesa Shared Use Path
*10th Street Calming Project

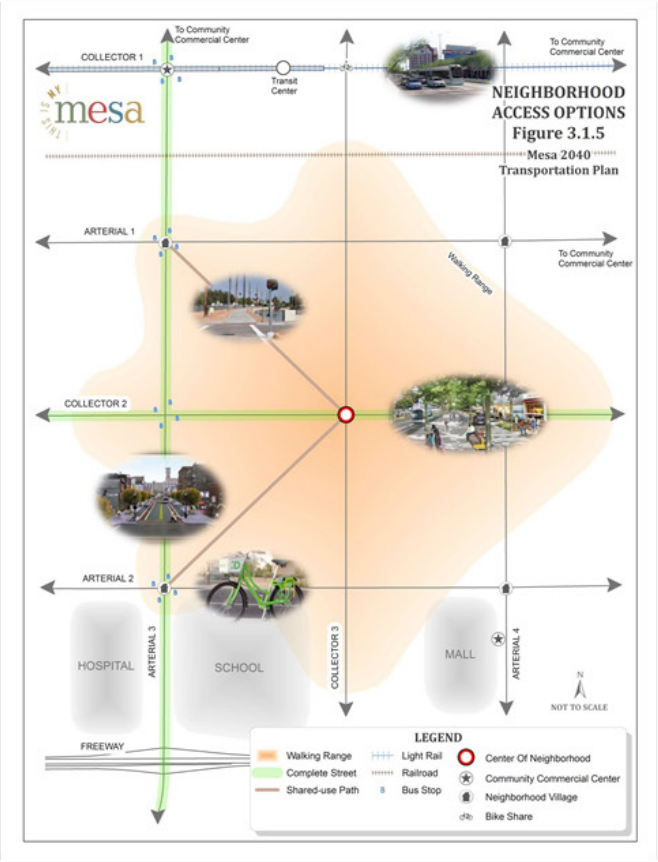
## Bicycle Facilities Design

*Fiesta District Paseo Nodes
*Porter Park Pathway

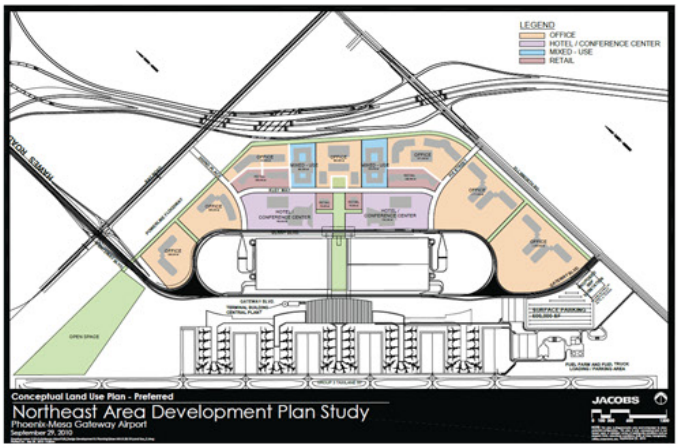
## Bicycle Facilities Construction

*Southern Avenue Street Scape Segment One
*Desert Trails Mountain Bike Park




To Community Commercial Center
COLLECTOR 1
Transit Center
To Community Commercial Center
NEIGHBORHOOD ACCESS OPTIONS
Figure 3.1.5
Mesa 2040 Transportation Plan
ARTERIAL 1
Walking Range
To Community Commercial Center
COLLECTOR 2
ARTERIAL 2
HOSPITAL
ARTERIAL 3
SCHOOL
COLLECTOR 3
MALL
ARTERIAL 4
NOT TO SCALE
FREEWAY
LEGEND
Walking Range
Complete Street
Shared-use Path
Light Rail
Railroad
Bus Stop
Center Of Neighborhood
Community Commercial Center
Neighborhood Village
Bike Share

My Mesa 2040
Transportation Plan
mesa
mesa·az


LEGEND
OFFICE
HOTEL / CONFERENCE CENTER
MIXED - USE
RETAIL
Conceptual Land Use Plan - Preferred
Northeast Area Development Plan Study
Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport
September 29, 2010
JACOBS

# Mesa 2040 Transportation Master Plan

The City of Mesa Transportation Department was fortunate to begin the update of this Plan at the same time that the City's Planning Department was updating the General Plan. This timing allowed coordination between the two Plans, not only for schedule, but also for philosophy and intent. Planning moved away from quantitative technical analysis and instead "kept the General Plan, general." It was a move meant to allow the Plan to be more approachable for residents, rather than for academia. Much of this method was possible due to the maturity of the City of Mesa. For example, the road network is largely established. Therefore, new concerns must be addressed as the City moves into the future that rely less on level of service analysis and more on a sense of place.

Both Planning and Transportation discovered the same opinions expressed by residents during public meetings and surveys – citizens want more focus on livability, neighborhoods, and greater connectivity and mobility. The goals and objectives found in Part 1 of the Transportation Plan reflect an intentional focus more on square-mile neighborhoods, complete streets, and multi-modal transportation opportunities. Additionally, the results and implementation of this Plan are meant to be flexible without fixed yearly project lists. Rather the Plan provides a sense of what the Mesa transportation system should be at build-out. This vision can then be used on a periodic basis to develop projects that coincide with the Plan as needed, and when funding is available.

Part 3 of this Plan presents some samples for possible future projects. Again, these projects are meant to align with what was heard from the public, as well as fill gaps in a finer fashion for all street users. These sample projects apply the concepts presented throughout Part 2 of this Plan, which is devoted to the elements that make up the transportation system. The ultimate goal for future projects is to bridge activity centers and neighborhoods with infrastructure usable by all modes.

CYCLOMESA
UNCHAINED

GRIEVES • APRIL 4TH

BLACK BOTTOM LIGHTERS • CATFISH MUSTACHE
MIGHTYMELLOWMASSIVE • KELTIC COWBOYS

## 2014 CycloMesa—El Tour  Twilight Criterium

The El Tour Twilight Criterium sponsored by Two Wheel Jones Bicycles, drew professional racing teams from around the USA and Mexico. The race and festivities were a huge success with hundreds of competitors and thousands of spectators enjoying an evening of racing and entertainment.

Friday April 4th from 2—10pm was all about Leather vs. Lycra! With a twilight criterium through downtown Mesa. A fast-paced race for professionals took cyclists on a high-speed figure-eight course through the heart of Mesa.

Some bikers crashed and burned, others prevailed to win hefty cash prizes and bragging rights. The crowd got to see a great show and were well entertained throughout the evening by both the racing as well as the Main Stage that featured Grieves as the headliner. Other supporting acts include, Black Bottom Lighters, Catfish Mustache, MightyMellowMassive and Keltic Cowboys!

The event was paired with Motorcycles on Main, Main Street's veteran event where motorcycles can park "Sturgis Style" and walk the streets to shop vendors, listen to some rock-n-roll and check out some chrome.

It was a party in the streets as the Mesa Bicycle and Pedestrian Program partnered with Downtown Mesa and hosted one of its biggest Friday nights ever with several thousand people in attendance!

CYCLOMESA
UNCHAINED

# 2014 CycloMesa—El Tour de Mesa

Saturday, April 5th from 10am-2pm was the family-friendly festival portion of CycloMesa. As the riders from El Tour de Mesa crossed the finish line, they were greeted by a huge festival of bikes. From beer gardens to health, wellness, and merchandise vendors to a bike swap of used and vintage parts, bike competitions and exhibitions, riders and neighbors experienced a full day of activities geared towards the bicycle.

Families enjoyed an enormous kids zone filled with inflatables of all sorts and a bike rodeo for the kids to teach them bike safety and receive a free bike helmet. Radio Disney was DJing and interacting with the kids. A small family fun ride was lead by a City staff member.

CycloMesa also hosted its annual Custom Bicycle Competition presented The Pedal Bike Shop. Bike builders, riders and connoisseurs from all over the valley came to enter their prized rides for a chance to win the Grand Prize of $500 or several $150 prizes. Categories included Best in Show, Best Arizona Themed Bike, Best Ladies Bike, Best Custom Cruiser and Best Lowrider.

Perimeter Cycling held the 24th annual Holualoa Companies El Tour de Mesa, a ride open to cyclists of all ages and abilities offered 72, 28, 11, and 6-mile rides that traverse the City and beyond. Perimeter Cycling a not for profit, conducts this ride each year, which benefits such worthy beneficiaries as the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, Phoenix Children's Hospital and many more foundations committed to serving the Mesa community and Valley. The 2014 Holualoa Companies El Tour de Mesa saw record numbers with over 1600 cyclists participating in one of the four events.

# 2014 Bike2Work

# 2014 Annual Bike2Work Day & Department Challenge

Each year the City of Mesa hosts an annual Bike2Work day celebration on Earth Day in coordination will all City Departments. The Bike2Work celebration is hosted by the City of Mesa Transportation Department's Bicycle and Pedestrian Program and features individual awards for riding, a best photo contest, and an annual department challenge. This Challenge pits departments against each other competing to rally the largest percentage of employees in their department to ride their bicycles into work on Bike2Work day. The winners in each of the three department size categories take home the traveling trophy, bragging rights and a free catered luncheon with the City Manager, hosted by the City of Mesa Transportation Department.

2014 had a total of 78 employees ride to work with the winning departments in each division being:

**-Small Division**—City Manager's Office

**-Medium Division**—Development & Sustainability Department

**-Large Division**—Transportation Department

In addition to the annual Department Challenge individual riders received awards in different categories which are tabulated throughout the entire Bike Month. Those categories include:

**-Longest Commute**—Garrett Topham

**-Most Days Commuted to Work**—Dennis Benzer

**-Most Miles Ridden for the Month**—Garrett Topham

**-Most Days Ridden for the Month**—Garrett Topham

**-Best Photo Contest**—Michael Samer

May Peace Prevail On Earth
545

RUN
KMC

529

GOT THE RUNS
GOT THE RUNS
GOT THE RUNS

IG IN BACK
216
30

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MESA
2014
ADVENTURE
CHALLENGE

History
573
556
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550
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548
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552

ANTIQUES
History
529

## 2014 Mesa Adventure Challenge

Staff wanted to host an event that was fun and encouraged people walk and explore Downtown Mesa. This year more than 70 people and 21 teams took part in the first Mesa Adventure Challenge in October.  It's part adventure race, part scavenger hunt and part Trivial Pursuit. Multi-person teams (2-10 people) are given a list of twelve clues. Upon solving them, the teams head out to checkpoints around town to take photos, complete challenges, locate points of interest and search for things to scavenge, while laughing all the way for 2-4 hours. Race distance depends on how you set out to get to each checkpoint, but it will be in the 5-7 mile range. Public transportation is allowed.

The Mesa Adventure Challenge is sponsored by the City of Mesa Transportation Department, with Sierra Adventure Sports coordinating the event details.

All proceeds from the event  were donated to Stand Up To Cancer.

Helmet – Type & Storage
Buy CPSC or ANSI Approved
Store inside
Replace after crash

Be BRIGHT
Celebrate Bike Month
PHOENIX

Be BRIGHT

Getting Started
Guide to a Safe Bike Commute
BICYCLE COMMUTING 101

Getting Started
Guide to a Safe Bike Commute

BICYCLE SAFETY EDUCATION
CONTROL CENTER

Transportation
TRANSPORTATION
TRANSPORTATION

# 2014 Education

**East Valley Bike Rodeo**

The City partnered with Safe Kids Maricopa County, Banner Cardon Children's Hospital, and Valley Metro to hold the Bike To The Future Bike Rodeo as part of CycloMesa.. Over 100 kids received new helmets and were taught basic bicycling skills. Radio Disney provided entertainment and activities for the kids after the kids completed the bike rodeo stations.

**Kids Bicycle Education**

Mesa held various bicycle education and skills for kids through school events, after school events, and library workshops. Participants received helmets and other items as well.

**Adult Bicycle Education**

This year Mesa partnered with Valley Metro's Be Bright program to provide a bicycle commuting 101 workshop. We held 5 workshops at each Mesa library. The sessions were all well attended, averaging 25 participants . Participants had to pre-register through the library system to attend the one hour educational workshop. During the first few minutes they would be given an update on projects, events, and activities happening in Mesa. The presentation included basic safety tips and techniques for the beginning or average rider. At the end of the presentation participants received a free kit that included a helmet, bike lights, bike lock, tee-shirt, pocketbook of tips, and more! Mesa staff is looking forward to creating a similar program more tailored to Mesa as well as expanding to other host locations for 2015.

**Heath & Safety Fairs**

The City of Mesa was invited to attend the Boeing Bike Fair BBQ. Every year Boeing hosts their Spring Clean Air Campaign event for employees. They offer the local bicycle shops and organizations to set up a booth and distribute information to encourage employees to become healthier and more active.

The Transportation Department was also present at many other health fairs and City events such ASU Bike Fair, Celebrate Mesa and the Building Stronger Neighbors Meetings to provide resources on our different programs offered to the community.

**Ride of Silence**

The City supported the Ride of Silence event organized by the Brett Saks Foundation. This ride happens annually to honor those injured or killed while cycling on public roadways. About 70 people participated in the ceremony and ride.

Walk, Bike, Roll
to School

POLICE

Walk, Bike, Roll
to School
mesa·az

Walk, Bike, Roll
to School

Walk, Bike, Roll
to School

# 2014 International Walk to School Day

International Walk to School Day is a global event that involves communities from more than 40 countries walking and biking to school on the same day. It began in 1997 as a one-day event. Over time, this event has become part of a movement for year-round safe routes to school and a celebration – with record breaking participation – each October. Today, thousands of schools across America – from all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico – participate every October.

Again, Transportation worked with Mesa Public Schools' District office to invite interested schools to participate in International Walk to School Day 2014. We had 7 school events take place throughout the month of October, with over 2,000 students participating. Each school tailored the event to fit their needs; some held a walk from a remote drop off location, others had safety assemblies, or celebrated those students already walking to school everyday. We hope to see it grow each year.

-MacArthur Elementary

-Sousa Elementary

-Lowell Elementary

-Sequoia Charter School

-Superstition Springs Elementary (Gilbert School District)

-Wilson Elementary

-Keller Elementary

SAFE KIDS MARICOPA COUNTY

February 8th

9am-Noon

15th ANNUAL

# CAR SEAT CHECK

# 2014 Car Seat Education

The City of Mesa Transportation Department has been extremely active in educating and promoting the proper use of car seats for children. Currently, we have one staff member who is a National Certified Car Seat Technician and Instructor. To become a National Certified Technician one must attend and pass a 32 hour, hands-on training course. Additionally, to become an instructor, one needs to be a technician for at least a year, and go through the course assistant process. Technicians and Instructors must recertify every 2 years and stay current on the emerging technology and issues.

Transportation, along with Mesa Police and Fire Departments organized several car seat check events throughout the City, free for the community. Parents and caregivers are educated on how to properly install their child's seat, and if needed, are given a brand new seat.

Transportation was the lead organizer for the eastside location of the Safe Kids Maricopa County Annual Car Seat Check Event. It was held a the Superstition Springs target. We checked over 75 car seats and raised over $250 for Safe Kids.

Transportation also works along side Mesa Fire to check cars by appointments every other week at one of the fire stations. We have assisted with parent education classes within the schools, as well as with parent groups, to teach about proper car seat safety.

The City of Mesa taught a basic car seat safety education class for the Arizona Department of Economic Security– Child Safety Caseworkers. Since they are always transportation children they felt their staff needed to be up to date on the proper usage of car seats and how the children should be secured.

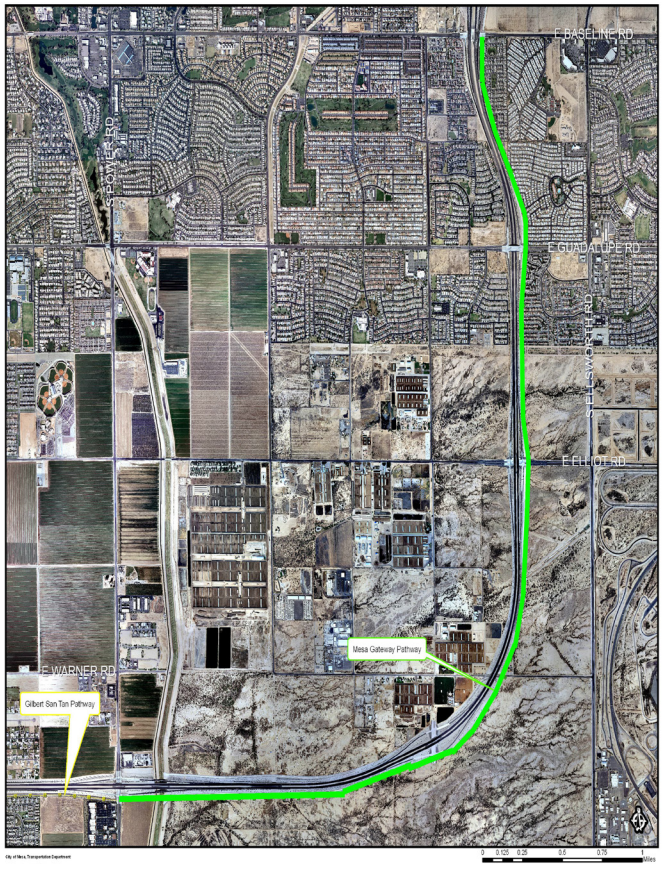
Throughout the year, Mesa continues to support and stay active with other vehicle related events such as mock crashes, driver refresher courses, and safety in and around cars within the community.

# Feasibility Studies

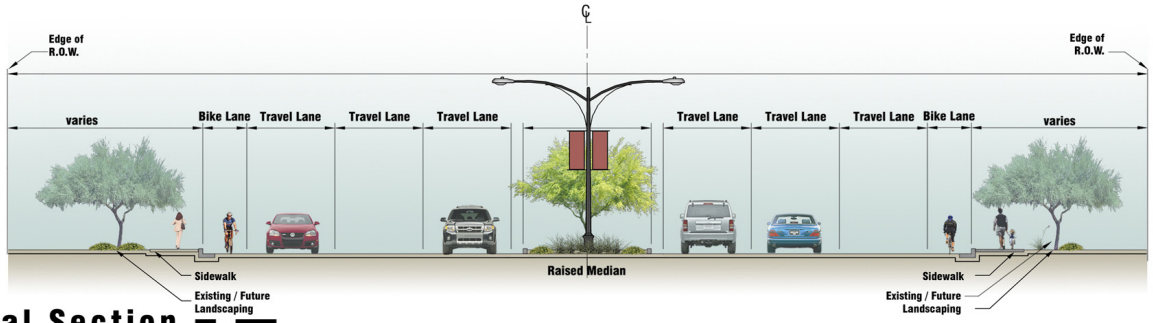
**10th Street — Street Calming Pilot Project**
City of Mesa has undertaken an evaluation of solutions for this situation. In concert with local residents, the City has evaluated potential solutions that include amenities meant to address the situation.
The City of Mesa will be implementing a pilot program to measure the effects of the closures and gather traffic data resulting from the changes in traffic patterns. Using existing materials on hand, City crews will install temporary measures to close the indicated streets beginning in the month of February 2015. These temporary measures will emulate the proposed improvements. Before the temporary closures are implemented, signage explaining the closures will be strategically placed throughout the neighborhood for the motoring public.

**Southeast Mesa Shared Use Path**
The Mesa Gateway Shared Use Pathway Project will play a major role in the continued development of the City of Mesa's transportation network. It will initially create a new six mile ten-foot wide shared-use pathway project in the East Valley that will be available for use by anyone including, but not limited to: residents, commuters, visitors, and recreational enthusiasts. It will help to facilitate continued development of a linked shared use pathway corridor throughout the East Valley. This project will improve, facilitate, and/or create linkages for shared-use pathway users to existing, and planned residential developments, commercial areas, employment centers, shopping areas as well as the Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport and several of the City of Mesa recreational facilities in Council District 6 including Mesa's public Augusta Ranch and Monterey Parks. In addition, and most importantly, the Mesa Gateway Shared-Use Pathway project will create another vital link to the City of Mesa and the region's overall recreational shared-use pathway network.

Mesa Gateway Shared Use Pathway

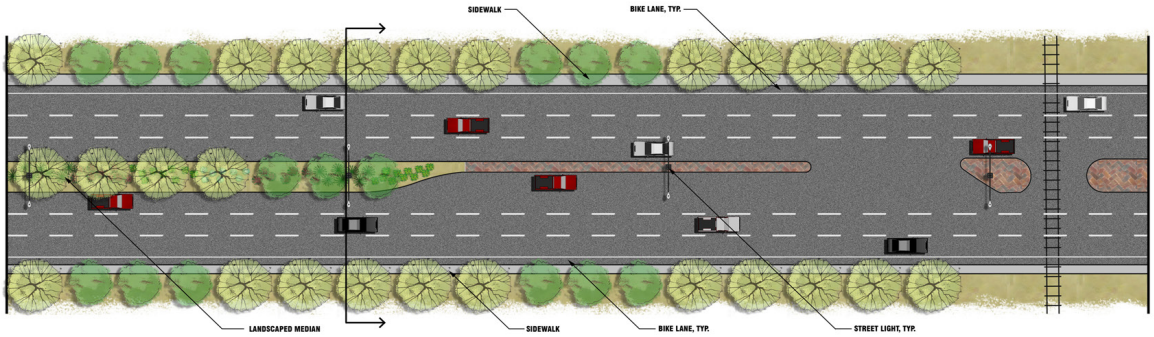


# Bicycle Infrastructure Project Design




**Typical Section**
Looking North

0 2.5' 5' 10'

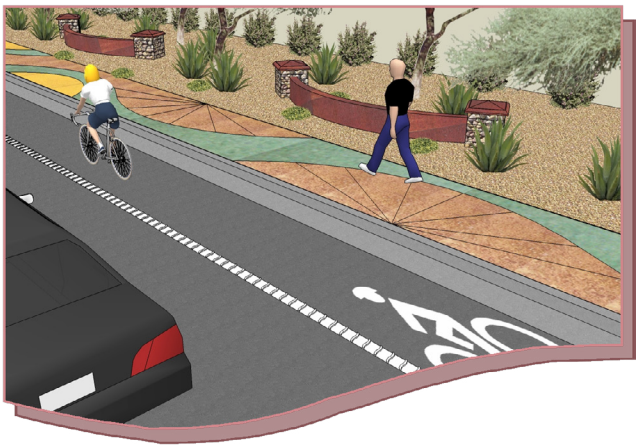



**Typical Plan View**
Looking North

0 10' 20' 40'

## Dobson Road Link to Light Rail
Typical Roadway Section and Plan View

CITY OF MESA Great People, Quality Service!
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION of GOVERNMENTS
J2 engineering and environmental design



## Dobson Road Complete Street Project

The Dobson Road Complete Street project will create an enhanced pedestrian pathway to provide a safe and aesthetically pleasing connection for residents between Broadway Road and Sycamore Light Rail Station. This project is approximately 6000 linear feet of pedestrian pathway, bike lanes, streetscape amenities and shade beginning at the northeast corner of Dobson Road and Broadway Road extending northerly parallel to Dobson Road and ending at Main Street where it connects with the existing light rail.

# Bicycle Infrastructure Project Construction

## Southern Avenue Complete Street

This is the first project from the City's Fiesta District Implementation Plan. This project included a variety of improvements extending from Alma School Road to Sycamore Street. This project transitioned Southern Avenue to four lanes (two in each direction) from Alma School Road to Sycamore. Other improvements included new wider shared use sidewalks and installation of new landscaping behind the new curbs. New street amenities were installed, which included benches, street lighting, pedestrian lighting, trash receptacles, bike racks, and traffic signals.

## Desert Trails Mountain Bike Park

Desert Trails Park is 35 acres and includes a series of hiking and biking trails, a pump track, a kids' skills track, two Ramada's, a restroom, and a 30-spot parking lot. The trails consist of a ¾-mile perimeter trail for hiking and non-motorized bike use. These trails go up to the top of the hill for hikers and non-motorized bikers. There are three progressive flow trails for downhill bike use. The flow trails are: • Beginner Level (Green) - Runaway Train Trail • Intermediate Level (Blue) - Squirrel Catcher Trail • Expert Level (Black) - Double Trouble Trail The skills track, pump track, and three flow trails are designed to introduce and progressively develop new skills for BMX-style bike riding.

## For more information regarding Mesa's Bicycle and Pedestrian Program please visit:

**http://mesaaz.gov/residents/transportation/bike-pedestrian**

**https://www.facebook.com/TheGreatArizonaBicycleFestival**

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